

WE MUST ROOT OUT RACISM

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 2, 2017

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, first let me thank my colleagues, for organizing this important special order hour and for their dedicated leadership in the fight to take racism and discrimination head on in America.

I'd also like to thank Chairman RICHMOND for his mighty leadership of our caucus as we work in resistance to this Administration.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stand with my colleagues in the fight to Root Out Racism from our society.

Our country was founded on the values of freedom, justice and equality.

Right now, those very same values are under attack from the highest levels of our government where the President of the United States and Republicans are openly embracing racist and discriminatory policies and actions.

As we speak the Trump Administration is actively supporting a Presidential Voting Commission which is rooted in voter suppression and racism.

As we speak, Attorney General Jeff Sessions is undoing consent decrees, funding private prisons and reviving the failed War on Drugs which is rooted in racism.

As we speak, this Administration is waging an all-out attack on affirmative action on campuses across the country which is rooted in racism.

As we speak, the President of the United States is being advised by individuals with ties to white supremacists, white nationalists and Neo-Nazis.

And to make matters worse, the President takes to Twitter nearly every morning to fan the flames of division and discrimination.

Choosing to tacitly speak out against racially motivated killings in Charlottesville but finding ample time to insult athletes who are protesting in solidarity with Colin Kaepernick.

Mr. Speaker, a recent NBC News/Wallstreet Journal poll found that 70 percent of Americans believe race relations in America are poor.

This should come as a surprise to no one. I am convinced that the public wants us to root out racism.

Attacks against communities of color seem to have no end under the Trump Administration. Racism, unfortunately is alive and well in the United States.

We need look no further than the devastating budget cuts Republicans have proposed which would disproportionately impact African Americans.

We must also acknowledge that systematic racism permeates these policies.

Last year then-presidential candidate Donald Trump asked African Americans what do we have to lose?

The answer is clearer than ever before: everything.

Critical programs that help the most vulnerable such as Meals on Wheels, heating and energy assistance, and nutrition aid to women and children are on the chopping block in the President's budget.

The President's budget eliminates: Community Development Block Grants; HOME programs that provide affordable housing for low-

income residents; Legal Services Corporation, which helps those who cannot afford legal representation; and the Minority Business Development Agency, which helps promote minority-owned businesses.

And Republicans are determined to continue their crusade against the Affordable Care Act which would rip healthcare from millions of African Americans.

For over 50 years our progress as a nation has been measured by how we reckon with the remaining vestiges of slavery, how we root out racism when it rears its ugly head.

Administrations have been judged by their support for civil rights, voting rights, advances in health care, public education, social justice and strengthening ladders of opportunity to enter the middle for African Americans.

This Administration is failing on all accounts. That is why as the "Conscience of the Congress", Members of the Congressional Black Caucus have united to resist the rollback of progress.

We will resist this cruel hearted political agenda, which exudes racism at its core.

We will stand united in defense of our communities.

And we will exercise our God-given constitutional rights.

From Jamestown to Jim Crow, we've fought to root out racism in this country and we have won amazing victories.

So right now, despite the challenges we face with this President and Republicans in Congress, the Congressional Black Caucus will continue to fight.

Whether it's standing up to the alt right agenda in the White House or taking a knee in solidarity with courageous Americans, we will not lose heart in the fight to root out racism. Because in the words of that old negro spiritual, "We aint gonna let nobody, turn us around".

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 2, 2017

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Troy, Illinois, on the occasion of its 150th anniversary.

St. Paul's had its beginning in 1864 when local Lutheran families first came together for worship. In 1865 a new church building was dedicated, which served both as a place to worship and as a school, and on January 25, 1867, St. Paul's Lutheran Congregation was officially established.

Since then, St. Paul's has had a strong presence in Troy. Whether by providing an elementary school education to its children, giving back to Troy through its community-based services, or simply ministering to its congregation, St. Paul's has been a focal point for the religious and spiritual needs of the community.

In the years since the first church building was dedicated, St. Paul's has undergone many changes: a second house of God was dedicated in 1888, German and English services began in 1900, an extensive remodeling occurred in 1938, and construction on the current church began in 1961. But what has not

changed over the past 150 years has been the spirit of love and joy in God's work that first animated St. Paul's and is present in today's congregation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge an important milestone for St. Paul's Lutheran Church, and I wish it, and its pastor, the Reverend Michael Schuessler, the very best as they celebrate the church's 150th anniversary.

HAPPY DOUBLE TEN DAY (TAIWAN)

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 2, 2017

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish both the people of Taiwan and Americans celebrating Taiwan's National Day this October 10th a Happy Double Ten Day.

Our two countries' partnership has flourished thanks to a mutual commitment to democratic values and constitutional government. Taiwan has created a strong democracy, as evidenced by the six direct presidential elections the country has held since 1996 and the three peaceful passages of power from one political party to another in the wake of these elections, most recently in 2016. Taiwan now serves as a strong example of democracy for not only the Asia Pacific region, but also the world.

The strength of this bond has also been demonstrated most recently by a series of common initiatives. In August, our two nations collaborated on the launch of Taiwan's first domestically built satellite, the Formosat-5, and Taiwan signed letters of intent to purchase approximately 365 million bushels of U.S. grains in 2018 and 2019 worth almost \$3 billion. Additionally, Taipei pledged \$800,000 to relief efforts in the wake of Hurricane Harvey.

I applaud Taiwan's commitment to deepening ties with the United States, and the people of Taiwan should rest assured that Americans and this Congress share it.

This is a day to celebrate, and to be optimistic. I ask my colleagues to join me in recommitting ourselves to the U.S.-Taiwan relationship, and in wishing Taiwan a Happy Double Ten Day.

RECOGNIZING PAWNEE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S 165TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 2, 2017

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize Pawnee United Methodist Church as they celebrate their 165th anniversary serving Pawnee, Illinois through ministry and service.

In 1852, Pastor Rev. A. Bradshaw established the first Methodist class in Pawnee, IL, where they met in a home of a member of the congregation. Five years later, the first Methodist church was built in what is now the heart of downtown Pawnee. By 1966, an additional space was needed to accommodate the growing congregation, thus a new sanctuary was built.

Pawnee United Methodist Church continues to serve the area with God's enduring blessings and faithful watch. The congregation's commitment to faith, service, and community embodies the virtues of true servants of God. I extend my sincere congratulations and gratitude to Pawnee United Methodist Church for all they have done and continue to do. May they continue to make disciples of Jesus Christ in the world.

TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 2, 2017

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remind my colleagues that October 10th is Taiwan's National Day—also known as Double Ten Day. As this day approaches, I would like to congratulate the people of Taiwan, both on this occasion and on building one of the world's great democracies.

Over the past 30 years, Taiwan has come to embody the same principles we hold dear: constitutional government, democracy, freedom, and entrepreneurship. Through the democratization over the last three decades, Taiwan now serves as a strong example of democracy for not only the Asia-Pacific region, but also the world. Yet it is not just our commitment to democratic and constitutional values that ties our two countries together.

Taiwan and the United States have together faced a number of challenges, and have time and again displayed a steadfast commitment to one another's security and prosperity. The Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) was enshrined in 1979, and later supplemented by the Six Assurances given by President Ronald Reagan in 1982. The TRA and the Six Assurances form the cornerstone of our relations with Taiwan, and I would like to express my strong and continuing support for these foundations to our relations. I reaffirm it today, and again congratulate the people of Taiwan on this important occasion.

IN RECOGNITION OF BEN ROSE AND HIS SERVICE TO CABARRUS COUNTY

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 2, 2017

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ben Rose on nearly a decade of service to North Carolina's 8th District as Cabarrus County Department of Social Services Director.

Originally from Raleigh, Ben received his undergraduate degree in biology at Campbell University and went on to finish his Master's in social work at Tulane University. Since finishing school, he has applied his education to community service and helping those who need it most. Ben has been an integral part of helping me assist our shared constituents and provide them with the best services possible.

Over the years, Ben has dedicated his life to furthering the state of North Carolina. He has served on the boards of the North Caro-

lina Association of County Social Services Directors, Cabarrus County Mental Health Advisory, Cabarrus County Transportation Advisory, Cabarrus County Conflict Resolution and Teen Court, Cabarrus Literacy Council, and on the Advisory Board of the State Employees Credit Union. As you can see, Ben's servant heart never stops, no matter the day or time.

Residing in North Carolina, he and his wife, Brenda, have one daughter. Ben has shown immense dedication to his career and his family over the years. I am extremely grateful for Ben's service to our community and I wish him continued success.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring Ben Rose for his service to our community.

HONORING CHIEF DONALD R. OLIVER ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 2, 2017

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my friend Donald R. Oliver as he retires as Chief of the City of Wilson, North Carolina Fire/Rescue Service located in my congressional district where he has led the department since 1992.

Chief Oliver began his firefighting career in Wichita, Kansas 50 years ago with the Wichita Fire Department. It was there that he met his wife Linda who worked at the Department as a fire-dispatcher.

After serving the people of Wichita as a firefighter, the two moved to Thornton, Colorado where Chief Oliver served as a firefighter for nearly 20 years and moved up the ranks first as Lieutenant, then Training Officer, Assistant Chief and ultimately Chief.

Mr. Speaker, in 1992, Chief Oliver moved to my hometown of Wilson, North Carolina and began serving as Chief of the Wilson Fire/Rescue Service. He is the longest serving Chief of the Fire/Rescue Service in the history of our great City and I know I speak for residents of the City in thanking Chief Oliver for working day and night to keep us safe.

In addition to his duties as Chief of the City of Wilson's Fire/Rescue Service, Chief Oliver represented his fellow firefighters on the International Association of Fire Chiefs Fire Prevention Committee where he served as Chair. The worldwide association represents the leadership of firefighters and emergency responders. Chief Oliver served as President of the National Fire Protection Association from 1996 until 2004 and was a charter member of the National Society of Executive Fire Officers. He also was a member of the Board of Visitors for the National Fire Academy from 1996 until 2009.

Mr. Speaker, for a quarter century, Chief Oliver has led the City of Wilson Fire/Rescue Service. He has been responsible not only for protecting the lives of the residents of our City, but also those who served under his capable leadership. I am grateful for his work.

So on behalf of the United States House of Representatives and the residents of the First Congressional District of North Carolina, I thank Chief Donald R. Oliver for his enormous sacrifices over his great career and wish him well as he retires from honorable service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 2, 2017

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, September 28, 2017, I missed Roll Call vote 543 on H.R. 2792, the Control Unlawful Fugitive Felons Act of 2017. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted Nay on Roll Call vote 543.

HONORING ZAGATHON

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 2, 2017

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Zagathon and the students of Gonzaga University who are associated with this annual event. Today, Gonzaga joins with more than 300 Miracle Network Dance Marathon programs across the country for Child Health Day.

In 2013, this event, formerly known as Gonzaga University Dance Marathon, set out to raise money for children in the community. In 2013, the group raised \$6,000 for Children's Miracle Network and last year raised an astounding \$76,000. This money stays in Eastern Washington, benefitting the Sacred Heart Children's Hospital in Spokane.

Past dance marathon events have provided Vein Finder devices for less painful IV starts and a vital piece of equipment for the NICU that prevents premature infants from having to be moved to receive lifesaving treatments. According to John Lauck, President and CEO of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals, "the caliber of students who participate in Miracle Network Dance Marathon completely contradict the millennial stereotype. I appreciate the countless hours they contribute to this effort, the leadership skills they demonstrate throughout the process and the immense impact they have on local kids".

I applaud the efforts of the students of Gonzaga University for doing their part to raise money for some of the most vulnerable in our communities, our children.

TRIBAL HERITAGE AND GRIZZLY BEAR PROTECTION ACT

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 2, 2017

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, the Tribal Heritage and Grizzly Bear Protection Act will ensure continued respect for both the ecological and cultural values of the grizzly bear. It requires that conservation and management of the species is conducted in close consultation with federally recognized Indian Tribes, as many Tribes value the bear in ways that cannot be accounted for solely under Endangered Species Act (ESA) protections. Eagles have been recognized for their symbolic importance to our country and were protected by Congress under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, even after these species had recovered under the ESA. Similarly, grizzly